

State Capitol | Lansing, Michigan 48913 PH (517) 373.3447 | FAX (517) 373.5849 www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/birkholz/

For Immediate Release October 3, 2006

Contact: Amanda Price 517-373-3447

## **Birkholz honored by United Growth Coalition**

**LANSING** – Sen. Patty Birkholz was awarded the first Land Use Stewardship Award Monday by the United Growth for Kent County Coalition.

Birkholz was honored for her outstanding leadership on land use throughout her legislative career. As chair of the Senate Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs Committee, she has helped craft legislation for good and consistent use of groundwater, forests, farmland and state parks.

"I am privileged to receive this award and feel honored to be the first-ever recipient of it," said Birkholz, R-Saugatuck Township. "I have always been a strong advocate of being good stewards of our land and water resources. Educated decision-making in dealing with land use is the heritage we leave for future generations. It's been a pleasure to work with United Growth for Kent County on these issues."

The award was presented during the annual Land Use Networking Luncheon. It is designed to encourage information sharing, collaboration and relationship-building between people and organizations working on land use issues throughout the state.

The United Growth Coalition serves as a sustainable, citizen-based organization that unites people and organizations around the promotion of positive land use in Kent County and West Michigan.

###